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To the Honorable Councils and
House of Representatives in General Court
assembled - May it please your Honor
The Committee from the unpaid
due of the Army would have been peculiarly
happy to have had it in their power to inform
this Honorable Court at their first meeting
that the business on which they were sent
was accomplished in such a manner as to have done
that Justice to the Army which they had a
right to expect not only from their long
and patient services ^{under} every disadvantage
which could possibly attend them but also
from the liberal promises made them by
this ^{Senate} ~~State~~ yet we feel a consciousness that no
exertions of ours have been wanting to ac-
complish this desirable ^{purpose} ~~effect~~ and that
we have strained no point beyond the line
of Justice and equity

195

Previous to the last adjournment
of the Court we presented a memorial
wherein we pointed out the reasons which
then occurred why Town Bounties and pri-
vate hire should not be considered in
the present settlements in addition to
those

these reasons we would beg leave further to
observe that the Regl^d of War^t paper
last session which excluded those Bounties
being published by authority in General Coa
was made up of so an inducement for those
to reengage in the service. A very considera
number therefore viewing the matter upon the
generous scale and being fully convinced that the
was determined they should not suffer by the deprec
of the Currency reinlisted upon those consider

Should those Bounties now be deducted
the soldiers who have reinlisted be deprived of the
consideration which they considered themselves
entitled to from the publication of a resolve
we fear it would in some measure destroy
that confidence which they ought to place in
the faith of the Publick and ^{will} be attended with
disagreeable consequences in the Recruiting
service — on this head we would further
observe that the principal part of those
bounties were given to men who engaged
late in the year 1777 and in 78 after the
Currency had depreciated very considerably
and we find by calculation that those
sums received from Towns added to the

State and Continental Bounties are not
much more valuable than the State and Con-
tinental Bounties alone were to those who
enlisted in the beginning of the year 1777

Considering the matter therefore
in this point of view those principles of
equal Justice which we are persuaded influ-
enced the Court in their last determination
with regard to Town Bounties will be destroyed
unless the Depreciation is made good in the
Continental and State Bounties at the time
of enlistment and the situation of those soldiers
who enlisted late will by no means be so ad-
vantagous as those who first enlisted without
a Town Bounty

Another Difficulty has arisen
in the course of the business which we
we had little reason to expect and that is
the manner ~~of~~ of valuing the
Pay we have received from the Continent
we cannot reconcile it to any principles of
Justice and Equity to consider this pay more
valuable than it was when the Army received
it from the public for had the payment
been delay'd these three years past and
the Army receiv'd no part of ~~the~~ their pay
till the present time we cannot imagine
that this Honorable Court would in that
case thought it to ~~be~~ ^{or} reasonable
to

to charge the Army with the full sum
their pay would amount to if valued by the
rate of Depreciation settled for each ^{month} during
the whole time when in fact it would not
be worth more than one eighth part
of that sum.

As the Currency has been
continually varying and for the most part
rapidly Depreciating we cannot conceive
any other possible ~~way~~ ^{method} of stamping the
true value upon the wages received than by the
rates of Depreciation at the time when the
General Payments were made.

We are fully persuaded the design of the
Resolve which promised to make the Army good
was to indemnify them for every loss they had sustained
on account of the Depreciation of the Currency
and it is evident this design will be frustrated if their
Continental pay is valued by the rate of depreciation any
number of months before it was received by the Army from the
Publick and the value will appear proportionably greater
as the Depreciation was less at that time when the payments
were made and this loss occasioned by the Depreciation from
the time it was valued to the time of payments will not be made
good.

We were intitled by a Resolve of Congress to our
pay at the close of each month and if the Depreciation of
the pay is not made good from the time it became due to
the time the different payments were received by the
publick we find by calculation it will deprive us of a

a considerable part of what would by otherwise due on account
of the Depreciation of the Currency and as it was no fault of
the Army that the payments were not ^{punctually} made we cannot
conceive that this Honorable ^{Court} will think it consistent with
reason and Justice that they and they only should suffer the
loss occasioned by that delay especially as the Publick were
in some measure benefited by the measure seeing it kept
the sums due to the Army out of circulation during the pe-
riods they were deprived of it.

But perhaps it may be objected that it was not
the fault of this State that the payments were not
punctual; but of Congress, in answer to which we
would observe the far from attributing any design of
injustice to them yet as the Currency was emitted by
the authority of Congress and was distributed by their
directions consequently the whole of the Depreciation
was owing to them and not to this State any farther
than this State is a part of the Continent so that
the Objection of making good any part will equally
apply as to making good the Depreciation for all the
time that the pay became due until the General
payments were made.

But as Congress have offered the enrolls to
the several States to make good the losses their respective
Quotas of the Army have sustained on account of the
depreciation of the Currency we would therefore submit
to this Honorable Court whether this matter does not
fall within their province as we conceive neither
the Recommendation of Congress or the Resolve of
State wherein they engage to make good the wages
of the establishments of Congress will be fully compli-
with unless we are indemnified for every loss or
advantage sustained by the Depreciation.
We have been more particular on this head
as it is a Claim the Committee of Courts did not
consider

consider at liberty by any Resolve to admit
though sensible at the same time that our pay
will not otherwise be made good and it will
establish a precedent by which in case of appre-
ciation of the currency the State will in future
receive an advantage tho the Army will have
no more than Justice done them in case of
Depreciation

We have the Honor to be

March 9th 1780